Date Mailed April 2, 1999

BEFORE THE

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Northern States Power Company (Wisconsin), as a Gas Public Utility, for Authority to Provide Natural Gas Service in the Town of Carey, Iron County, Wisconsin

4220-CG-129

NOTICE OF PROCEEDING AND INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS

THIS IS A PROCEEDING TO consider the February 26, 1999, application of Northern States Power Company (NSPW), as a gas public utility, for authority under Wis. Stat. § 196.49, and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 133, to provide natural gas service in the Town of Carey, Iron County, Wisconsin.

NSPW is a gas public utility, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01(5). NSPW states 600 feet of gas main was installed in the Town of Carey in 1996. At the time the main was installed, NSPW claims to have been under the impression this area was in the City of Hurley. NSPW states that six customers in the Town of Carey currently receive natural gas service.

The Commission authorized Lake Superior District Power Company, a predecessor to NSPW to construct facilities and provide natural gas service in the City of Hurley in docket CA-4440, dated February 5, 1965.

No natural gas utility is currently authorized to provide natural gas service in the Town of Carey, Iron County, Wisconsin.

The Town of Carey issued a Resolution and a Consent, dated January 22, 1999, and January 11, 1999, respectively, granting NSPW authority to construct, maintain and operate facilities necessary to furnish and sell natural gas in the Town of Carey.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission will investigate whether NSPW is currently providing natural gas service in the Town of Carey without a Commission certificate of authority and, if so, whether such authority should be granted at this time.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Commission will investigate the application without hearing.

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NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

This is a Type III action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(3). Since no unusual circumstances have come to the attention of the Commission which indicate that significant environmental consequences are likely, neither an environmental impact statement under Wis. Stat. § 1.11 nor an environmental assessment is required.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to get this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Tom Reisdorf at

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